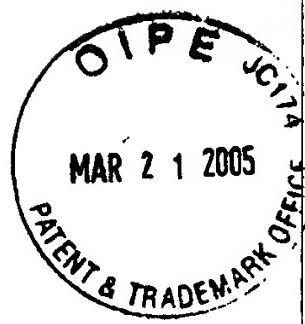


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Dkt. 00250

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1743

CHUAN-BAO WANG et al

Examiner: B. Sines

Serial No.: 09/771,882

MAIL STOP AFTER FINAL

Filed: January 30, 2001

For: POISON RESISTANT COMBUSTIBLE GAS SENSORS
AND METHOD FOR WARNING OF POISONING

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2005.

Claims 1 to 4 and 6 to 14 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Jones et al in view of Friese et al.

Jones et al patent has been cited to show a combustible gas detection element having an inner layer similar to the inner layer of the claimed invention, with an oxidation catalyst material supported on alumina. Jones et al also provides a non-catalytic outer layer comprising a porous material which prevents non-volatile residues from reaching catalytically active regions of the detector. The Office Action recognizes that this outer layer is not the same as the outer layer of the claimed invention, and has cited the Friese et al reference for a showing of a gas sensor including an outer layer comprising a catalytic compound which is not substantially active towards combustible gases, but which